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In The Hack

SCHOONER CURLING CLUB NEWSLETTER



Volume 55

March 2014

Saturday, March 1 st	Coors Fun Night
Friday, March 14 th	Inter-Club Curling (tentative)
March 21 st – 23 rd	Sydney CC Moosehead Mixed Spiel
March 28 th – 29 th	Coors Fun Spiel
March 28 th -29 th	Ann Terry Curl for Cancer (Sydney CC)
April 8 th – 12 th	Closing Spiel
Sunday, April 13 th	Family Skating Party
Wednesday, April 16 th	Spring General Meeting
Saturday, April 26 th	Closing Banquet

NOTE: All dates are tentative and subject to change. Check the club website or bulletin board for changes and additions.

Sweetheart Spiel Results



The annual Women's Sweetheart Spiel was held at the club on February 14th and 15th. This year saw around 32 women participate on eight teams and enjoy two days of great curling, great food, wine and cheese and lots of fun. Compu Clone Computer Solutions was back again this year as the corporate sponsor, Martin Campbell again helped provide Friday night's wine and cheese and the Schooner men all kicked in to fund the dinner on Saturday that was enjoyed by all curlers and guests. High winds and some wild weather on Friday caused a power outage at the club that shut down the ice plant and forced the shortening of the second draw of the evening. The Schooner ice crew chief, Brian Laughlin stayed at the club along with Russell Fitzgerald and Martin Campbell until around 3:30 am Saturday morning in hope that Nova Scotia Power would arrive to restore the power. When they finally left the power was still out. Luckily, NSP did arrive sometime shortly after that and when Wayne Bonnell and Martin arrived at around 6:30 am on Saturday the power had been restored and the plant was brought back online. Some maintenance on the ice was required but the ice crew was able to get the ladies curling again with only a one hour delay to the scheduled 9:00am start. Some shuffling of the schedule was required but all Saturday draws went off without further incident. Between draws the ladies and all guests were treated to delicious, hot soup made by Frank Kococki and when curling was complete everyone sat down to dinner prepared by MacKinnon's catering and served up by some of the Schooner men. The buffet style dinner included chicken, meatballs, rice, cold cuts, salads and dessert and it was enjoyed by all. Once dinner was complete the final order of business for the weekend was prize presentations. This year, first place overall and the Sweetheart jackets were taken by the Lynnette Chiasson rink. Joining skip Lynnette in victory was third Jolene MacLellan, second Laura Rafuse and lead Charlene Kokocki. Congratulations to the Chiasson rink and thank you for a great performance. Second place was taken by the Marie Young rink. Marie was joined by Barb Thistle, Nadine Drover and Glenis Nathanson. Rounding out the top three was a rink skipped by Robina Boudreau with third Janet Gallivan, second Kathy Gale and lead Eilleen Bonnell. The remaining teams in order of finish

were the Raylene Dejeet rink, the Mary Foley rink, the Evelyn Hebb rink from Baddeck, the Amy MacPherson rink and the Lynn Kelly rink. All curlers were presented with prizes that they got to pick from the wonderful array that was available on the prize table. After the ladies were awarded their prizes, the spiel's main organizer, Lynn Kelly, presented a thank you gift, a beautiful engraved watch, to Bill Farr, owner of Compu Clone Computer Solutions, who has been the main sponsor of the Sweetheart Spiel for the last few years. Thank you gifts, embroidered Schooner jackets, were also presented to Russell Fitzgerald for all his work in helping organize and run the spiel and to Martin Campbell for providing the wine and cheese on Friday. Lynn wasn't finished yet as she also had a thank you for Ice crew chief Brian Laughlin and Wayne "Bull" Bonnell for all the extra time and work they put in on the weekend to make sure the spiel could continue. The Schooner Curling Club would like to thank all of the sponsors, Lynn Kelly for all her work in making this spiel possible and all the members who helped with the organization, preparation and running of the spiel. Thank you to everyone who brought food on Friday to add to the wine and cheese, to the Schooner men for helping fund Saturday's dinner, to Frank Kococki for making his soup, to the bartenders, the ice crew and to everyone else who helped out in any way. And, last but not least, a huge thank you to all the ladies from the Schooner, Sydney and Baddeck curling clubs who participated and make this such a wonderful event. We hope to see you all back next year.

League Roundup



If the weather was the recurring theme in reporting league play for the last couple of months then this month's theme will be make-up games. Draw master Cal Thistle has been a busy man lately and we have seen many makeup games being scheduled in the mixed league in non-traditional time slots like Saturday afternoons and Sunday evenings. An unfortunate necessary step to make up games after weather has played such havoc with the schedule this year. Curlers are asked to keep a close eye on the club website and calendar to make sure they don't miss out on any games. Skips are asked to keep their teams well informed of scheduled make up games.

The Men's League seems to be one league that has remained unaffected by weather cancellations and continues to run smoothly for draw master Thistle. The Men's League started its third round of play early in February with teams grouped closely in the standings. Gordie Cormier entered February with a slim lead over the Brian Laughlin rink that was made slimmer by an early loss to the Cal Thistle rink, but Cormier was able to defeat Laughlin in February which, coupled with two losses and a tie by the Gary Landry rink, another team close on Cormier's heels for first place, allowed Cormier to stretch his lead a bit and give himself some breathing room atop the standings. An undefeated February saw the Cal thistle rink jump up in the standings as well but it was a case of too little too late for Thistle who started the month back in the pack and wasn't able to catch the front runner. With only one week to go in the regular schedule, it looks like Cormier has pretty much wrapped up the Men's League title and can solidify that with a victory in the final week when he plays John Donovan's rink.

The mixed league sees a familiar name at the top of the standings where Gordie Cormier has also guided his team to first place. Standings were tight at the top at the beginning of February with first place is still within reach for a number of teams. Cal Thistle was able to win a key matchup early in February against the Russell Fitzgerald rink that vaulted him into second place alone, breaking a tie with Fitzgerald who shared that position until the loss. The loss by Fitzgerald gave the Brian Laughlin rink

and the Darrell MacAulay rink a chance to sneak by him as well and they took full advantage, both registering victories early in February and pushing Fitzgerald from a tie for second to fifth place in one week of play. This shows how tight things are in the standings. Fitzgerald was able to rebound later with a victory over front runner Gordie Cormier who had now dropped two games and was beginning to show a chink in his armor. Cormier still held on to first place but was being chased by a number of teams, some of which had makeup games in hand over the front runner. Cormier was able to rebound with a couple of victories after his short losing streak and continued to hold onto first place with Darrell MacAulay close behind in second. Cormier had a bye in the final week of February so MacAulay had a chance to pull within one point of the leader, close enough to Cormier to overtake him in the final week of play, the first week of March, when, fittingly, the two will meet in their final game of the regular season. MacAulay made good on that opportunity, even though he was playing with only three players in the absence of mate Brian Bernier, coming from behind against Brian Laughlin to take a victory and keep his chances of a league title alive. The loss pretty much squashed any hope Laughlin had of taking first place away from Cormier. Another team that still has a shot at catching Cormier would be the Cal Thistle rink who sits a couple of points back in third place. Thistle needs a Cormier loss and a couple of make-up game victories to still have a chance. The picture is still not one hundred percent clear due to some other teams having make up games but it does look like a Cormier win over second place MacAulay will solidify a league championship for him while a MacAulay victory would likely give him the title. The Team Entry league also promises a very interesting race for first place overall. Early on in February we saw the Brian Laughlin team making a move forward in the standing having registered two wins in round two while the Ray Cameron team finally got back in the win column with a decisive win over one of the front runners, the John Donovan rink, to create a logjam of second place teams with four rinks tied at that position. One of the teams that has really turned things around and seems to be generating a lot of momentum in the league is the Wayne "Bull" Bonnell rink who have put together a string of victories to overcome some early season setbacks to claim their share of second spot. Wally MacDonald overcame a loss to Bonnell with a win in week one of February and take advantage of other teams beating up on each other to extend his first place lead to four points at that point. MacDonald continued to win in week 2 of February with a huge victory over the Brian Laughlin rink to maintain his first place standing and four point cushion. Bull Bonnell also continued rolling along and the Ray Cameron rink had seemingly found its stride again as they both won to keep pace with MacDonald and within striking distance of first place. The John Donovan rink suffered another loss in week two and remained tied with the Laughlin rink in third, both falling back to a point where first place, while still attainable, would be seemingly unlikely. Week three, the final week of play in February due to the Schooner Cash Spiel, was partially cancelled due to weather but two games would take place and see the two teams still in contention to catch MacDonald, the Bonnell and Cameron rinks, face off to see who would sit in second place alone. Bonnell continued his unbelievable roll with a victory over Cameron and pulled within two points of MacDonald who saw his game against the Greg Ferguson rink cancelled. The Brian Laughlin rink also played that Sunday but pretty much had all hope of catching MacDonald and Bonnell extinguished when they suffered a heartbreaking defeat at the hands of the Darryl MacAulay rink. With limited regular season play left it looks like the new look "Bull" Bonnell rink has the only legitimate chance of catching the upstart MacDonald for first place. Makeup games will play a

part in the final standings as, while Bonnell is within two points of MacDonald at the close of play in February, MacDonald may have as many as two games in hand over Bonnell and victories in one or both of those would widen the margin. Other teams have make-ups as well that could allow them back in the hunt for first if they can win those and MacDonald loses the rest of his matches.

As league play comes to an exciting close early in March we still have a number of teams in each league vying for top spot. If required, tie breaks for all leagues are posted at the club on the league board. Regardless of who wins top spot in regular league play, playoffs will begin for all teams in all leagues early in March so keep a close eye on the schedule to make sure you know when you are curling. Good Curling Everyone.

Coors Fun Nights



Mark your calendar and plan to attend the final Coors Fun Nights of the season being held Saturday, March 1st. Coors Fun Nights are a great way to introduce friends and family to the sport of curling and get them involved in the club. Many of the clubs new members have come to us by way of the Coors Fun Nights. Coors Nights have struggled a bit this season with attendance, probably due a lot to the harsh winter weather, so it is very important that members try and support this final event of the season and bring their friends. The event in February bounced back a bit and was pretty well attended. Let's try and make the final Coors night the best of the season. Not only will everyone have lots of fun, Coors Nights are a real bargain as well. At only \$7 for the public and \$4 for Schooner Members, you get curling, pizza and a chance at great prizes provided by the Coors Light Brewing Company. All equipment and instructions are provided for new curlers, just bring a pair of clean, dry shoes for the ice area. Hope to see you there!!

Open Cash Spiel Results



The Schooner Curling Club played host to its annual Open Cash Spiel from February 21st – 23rd at the club. This annual event was cancelled last season due to a lack of teams but the Schooner Executive were adamant in bringing it back this year and worked hard to try and return it to its former glory. Even though the spiel saw only eight teams participate, the weekend turned out to be quite successful with lots of great curling, a wonderful dinner on Saturday that was made and served by some of the Schooner women and lots of people around the club all weekend to take in the action. Friday night had all eight teams start the spiel in the "A" draw with Brian Laughlin taking on John Donovan, Sydney's Kurt Roach against Schooner's Abbie Boudreau, our own Wayne "Bull" Bonnell was up against Sydney's Ken Keough and the final matchup pitted a very tough Kris Tynski rink from Sydney against Schooner's Martin Campbell. The early draw got underway at 7 pm and saw two shortened games. The Brian Laughlin rink jumped out to an early lead while the John Donovan rink struggled all night, allowing Laughlin to extend that lead with multi point ends and steals which resulted in a handshake after five. While the game between the Roach and Boudreau rink was well played and was closer than the score made it appear, the Kurt Roach rink was just that much better and was able to win in just six ends. The 9 pm draw pitted Sydney against Schooner in both games. The game between the Wayne "Bull" Bonnell rink and the Kenny Keough rink was another shortened match with Bonnell winning easily. The other game was a different story, no surprise given the two teams involved. Kris Tynski and Martin Campbell traded points and ends all night and deciding the winner came down to the final shot.

Tynski had hammer and had to remove a Campbell rock and stay for a point with his last stone to win. Tynski's shot made contact but he was unable to stick around, allowing Campbell to steal the game in the last end and continue on in the "A" draw while Tynski was dropped to "B".

Play continued in the "A" division at noon on Saturday with all winners from the previous night in action. Three of the four teams left in the "A" division were Schooner while Kurt Roach was the only Sydney entry remaining. Martin Campbell took on "Bull" Bonnell in one match that saw the Campbell rink continue their strong play from Friday night while Bonnell struggled a bit to re-find his winning form. Campbell took the game easily and advanced to the "A" final being played on Sunday and Bonnell dropped to the "C" division and had to play a second game Saturday. The second "A" division game pitted the Brian Laughlin rink against Sydney's Kurt Roach. Laughlin looked good in the early ends and controlled the game, amassing a 6-2 lead after six. However, the skilled and experienced Roach squad wasn't about to give up and got a big three points with hammer in the seventh to cut the lead, although Laughlin now held the all important hammer heading home, still up by one point. Things didn't go well for the Schooner foursome in the eighth end as they were unable to hold on, seeing Roach steal two points and the game out from under them. Roach now advanced to the "A" final against the Campbell rink on Sunday while Laughlin had to meet "Bull" Bonnell in a "C" division match Saturday evening with the loser being eliminated from further play. The second draw on Saturday saw the "B" division take the ice with two Schooner teams and two Sydney teams matching up against each other. One game saw the John Donovan rink take on the Abbie Boudreau rink and the second saw Sydney's Kris Tynski take on Ken Keough. The Boudreau and Donovan matchup was close with the edge in play going back and forth but, in the end, the Boudreau rink prevailed over Donovan and advanced to the "B" final on Sunday while Donovan moved down to "C" and would play another game on Saturday. After the day's second draw there was a break for dinner that was a pot luck prepared by some of the Schooner ladies who volunteered to make a dish. Everything was delicious and all the curlers and guests raved about the food and the hospitality. There were even enough leftovers to feed everyone again for lunch on Sunday. Once everyone was fed it was time to return to the ice for four rinks. "Bull" Bonnell took on the Laughlin rink but was again unable to find the winning formula he had on Friday, dropping the game to the Laughlin foursome and was eliminated while Laughlin moved on to play in the "C" final on Sunday. The second "C" division match saw the John Donovan rink come from behind to defeat Ken Keough, advancing to meet Laughlin in Sunday's "C" finally and eliminate the Keough rink from further play. On Sunday, the "C" finalists took the ice at 1 pm in the only draw. The Brian Laughlin rink was taking on the John Donovan rink in a rematch of two Schooner teams who met Friday night to open the spiel. Laughlin's rink continued their strong play and Donovan's struggles returned, seeing Laughlin take the game and the "C" prize. Laughlin's rink had a good spiel and played well, only faltering in the final two ends of the game against the Roach rink, controlling most of the play in their games otherwise, and could have easily finished higher if not for that short let down. The "A" and "B" finals were set to go off at 3 pm on Sunday and saw Schooner's Abbie Boudreau taking on Sydney's Kris Tynski for "B" honors and our own Martin Campbell taking on Kurt Roach of the Sydney Club for the "A" crown. In the "B" draw, the experienced and powerful Tynski rink proved to be too much for the Boudreau squad as Tynski took the game and the "B" title. The "A" division title match proved to be a close, back-and-forth affair with teams trading points early on

and neither seeming to be able to gain much of an advantage over the other. In the sixth end, with a number of rocks in play and Campbell having many of his stones lying around the four foot area, it seemed that this was going to be another close end with Roach, who held hammer, even possibly giving up a steal to the Campbell rink. Roach called upon his third to try a very difficult runback take out in hope of removing some of Campbell's stones from around the button. Roach placed his broom close to the target and as the stone was released and was on its way down the ice, the Roach front end sweeping hard to hold the line, everyone knew it was close to being made. Sure enough, the thrown rock drove the stone at the front of the house into the pile and removed three of Campbell's rocks, leaving Roach laying three. What a turn of events with one shot. Campbell attempted to draw in and play a freeze with each of his two skip's rocks in hope of scoring or at least limiting Roach's score but was unsuccessful, leaving Roach a draw for four that he made and took a strangle hold on the game. Roach never looked back and defeated Campbell to take the "A" division crown. It was a very exciting finish to the weekend, even though it didn't turn out the way the many Schooner supporters in attendance would have liked.

The Schooner Curling Club would like to thank everyone who took part in the spiel and also all those who helped out in running it, especially the ice crew who worked hard to prepare and maintain the ice and keep it in top playing condition all weekend and all the ladies who cooked and donated food and helped out with serving. We hope the Cash Spiel is back to stay on the Schooner Calendar and that it will get better and better each year. Check the club's website for photos from the weekend action.

Blarney Stone Spiel

The annual Blarney Stone Women's Spiel will be held in the Baddeck Curling Club March 15th and 16th. The past number of years has seen the Schooner Club well represented at the Blarney Stone and this year will be no different. Schooner will have about 16 players making up four teams heading to Baddeck to compete this year and we want to thank them all for representing us and wish them all the best of luck. We know you will carry the club banner proudly both on and off the ice and make us proud.



Halifax 2015

Further to the announcement last month that Halifax was named as the host city of the 2015 Ford World Men's Curling Championship, dates for the event have been announced. The event will be held from March 28th - April 5th, 2015, at the Halifax Metro Center. Tickets will go on sale later this year. As of now, no information is posted but keep checking <http://www.curling.ca/tickets> often for ticket package information and pricing. This will be a premier event for curling being held in our own province and is an opportunity to see the best men curlers in the world, an opportunity most curling fans will not want to miss. Book your tickets and hotels early.

Inter-Club Curling

The last inter-club curling event, held January 31st, was very well supported and a big success. Five out of six available curling sheets were filled, two at Schooner and three in Sydney with participation being split pretty evenly between the two clubs. The next inter-club curling event will be held on Friday, March 14th starting at 7pm. These events are open to any member of the Sydney or Schooner curling clubs and are a great way to get an extra evening of curling in at no cost. You may also get an opportunity to play in a different club, on different ice and with curlers you may not

Coors Spiel

have the opportunity to curl with otherwise. Sign up at the club or see Cal Thistle for more information.

The annual Coors fun Spiel will be held at the club on March 28th and 29th. The Coors Light Brewing Company is back again to donate all the prizes for the weekend spiel. This year the entry will be a little different from the usual single entry. Players can enter as a team of four, as skip/mate and have two players assigned to the team to play the front end, or as single entry. No matter how you enter, the entry fee will be \$20 per player. The event is open to both members and non-members so it's a great opportunity to put a team together a team together from family, friends, co-workers or whoever you want. This spiel is all about the fun and everyone gets a prize. A signup sheet is now posted so get signed up and join us for the 2014 Coors Light Fun Spiel.

Moosehead Mixed Spiel

The Sydney Curling Club will play host to their annual Moosehead Mixed Spiel from March 21st to 23rd. Teams must consist of two men and two women with an entry fee of \$160. Each team is guaranteed three games, meals and snack all weekend and a dance Saturday night. The top eight finishers will be in the prizes and all curlers will have a chance at some great door prizes all weekend. Any Schooner members who plan to enter a rink in this very popular spiel are advised to get their team together early and guarantee your spot in the event. Even if you don't plan to play, why not drop by the Sydney Curling Club that weekend and cheer on the Schooner teams taking part. Also, don't forget about the dance on Saturday night that is always well attended by curlers and guests and is always lots of fun.

Ann Terry Curl for Cancer

The Ann Terry Curl for Cancer will be held at the Sydney Curling Club on March 28th and 29th. This annual event is held to raise funds in aid of cancer research. Anyone interested in participating in this spiel should contact the Sydney Curling Club for more information or visit their website at www.sydneycurlingclub.com.

April's Upcoming Events

Even though April is traditionally the month that we begin to see the end of winter and the beginning of spring here in Cape Breton and our thoughts begin to turn towards fair weather activities and less towards curling, the month of April still has plenty of activities at the Schooner Club. We will see the finales of most league playoffs and the crowning of champions in these leagues. Then, to cap off the curling season, we will have the Closing Spiel held from April 8th – 12th. Sunday, April 13th, not long after the final curling stones of the season make their way across the ice, there will be the annual Schooner Skating party for members and guests to enjoy the Schooner ice in a different way, skating and playing on the ice for the final time of the 2013-14 season. Even though on ice activities end on that day, two important off-ice events remain on the calendar in April. Wednesday, April 13th will see the General Spring Meeting where members will get the opportunity to hear a summation of the season past and participate in decisions that will shape the future. April will also see the final party of the 2013-14 season when we hold the closing banquet on Saturday, April 28th. Dinner, awards and dance will highlight the banquet. So pencil in all of these events and finish off the season right. Golfers are reminded to keep an eye open for the annual Schooner Golf Day and BBQ tentatively scheduled in June. Hope to see a good turnout for that as well.

Snowball

The Snowball even split continues to run at the club with prizes again reaching a high amount in the last month or two. One prize won in February exceeded \$170. Changes have been made to the snowball with regard to Senior Pickup Curling on Friday afternoons. It was that the participants of Friday Pickup could sign in for the snowball and a draw would be made at the completion of curling that afternoon. It was the opinion of the executive that this did not allow the majority of members to sign in for that draw if they so wished. Draws held during evening curling often see members come to the club and sign in when they are not curling, especially when prize money reaches high levels as it has done this season. The executive has decided, in order to accommodate as many members as possible, that the Snowball sign in will run all weekend from Friday Senior pickup to the end of Sunday Team entry curling. Members will have the opportunity to sign up during any regular club event on Friday, Saturday or Sunday to be entered into the drawing that will take place Sunday afternoon. You will still need to be present at the club to sign in for yourself. You cannot sign in ahead of time nor have someone else sign in for you. This change still allows members who take part in Friday curling to sign in and also gives other members ample opportunity to join the draw as well. You can sign in on Friday, Saturday during junior program or Sunday during Team Entry. The draw will be made at the end of curling on Sunday. Other draws during regular league play from Monday to Thursday will not be affected and remain as they always have been.

Follow the Rules

Recently the club has been reprimanded by the liquor licensing board inspector for infractions that have been noticed during random visits. In order to avoid any fines or suspensions of our license, the Schooner executive is asking all members to pay more attention to following the rules we are required to follow. First and foremost, no alcohol can be taken off the premises at any time. This means that no one is permitted to take drinks outside the door for any reason, even to just go out for a cigarette. You must leave your alcoholic drinks inside the club. Another rule we have all been guilty of ignoring is having guests sign our guestbook. As a private club we are required to have a guestbook out at all times and any non-member is required to sign it. Members are reminded that there is a Regional bi-law in place that prohibits smoking in any public building and that means any part of the building. In our case that also means the furnace room, a place some members have taken refuge in to escape the cold while having a cigarette. The bi-law states that no one is permitted to smoke with 25 feet of the entrance. At the very least you must be completely outside with the door closed and away from the entrance. Lastly, no one is permitted to bring alcoholic beverages of their own into the club at any time, even during a time when our bar is not open. If we are caught with alcoholic drinks in the club that have not been purchased from our bar, we run the risk of having our liquor license suspended or possibly revoked. As members of the club we are all obligated to follow these rules and also to make sure any guests that we bring to the club follow these rules as well. Liquor inspectors can show up at the club at any time and if they find any infractions they will act. The Schooner executive asks for and is thankful for your cooperation.

Canada Golden in Curling

Even though it's old news now, I felt that Canada's double gold medals at the 2014 Sochi Olympics in curling, the sport we all love so much, warrants another mention in this month's newsletter. Jennifer Jones dominated on the women's side going undefeated through the entire event, something never before done at the Olympics by a women's curling team. Jones and her team exuded confidence from the very first rock thrown to the very last open take out that solidified the gold medal for Canada. Brad Jacobs on the men's side stumbled a little out of the gate, losing two of his first three matches and looked unlike we have seen the usually confident Jacobs foursome for quite some time, possibly due to the immense pressure that was placed on his shoulders by the press and the expectations of Canadian curling fans. Jacobs rebounded in game four with a victory and from then on was seemingly unstoppable as he gained more momentum and confidence with each victory he got under his belt. By the time Jacobs and his team met David Murdock's Great Britain rink in the finals for the gold medal they were up to full power, crushing Murdock in a shortened eight end game, the type of performance we knew Jacobs was capable of and expected of him all week. Further fueling the fire under the Jacobs team were the comments made to the press the day before the match by Great Britain's coach, Soren Gran of Sweden, stating that he didn't like the way that the Canadians "handled" themselves on the ice. I guess Soren really didn't like the way the Canadians handled his Brits when they squashed them like a soggy haggis thrown under the wheels of a speeding train. Sorry Soren, better luck next time.

Hockey pride aside, I'm sure there is not one Canadian curler who can say they weren't immensely proud of Jones and Jacobs and their teams when they brought home gold medals and solidified Canada's place at the top of the curling world. Thank you to them all and ***Good Curling Canada!!!***

Club Says Thanks

A while back, around the end of December, the club had an issue with our hot water and also a leaking pipe in the heater that runs under the viewing glass that is between the ice and the clubhouse. Vice President Gordie Cormier asked Nick Usher if he could help with the problem and the two came up on the day of New Year's Eve and went to work. Nick fixed the leaky heater and also replaced the hot water coil in the furnace to get the hot water flowing again. The club was only charged for parts, which include the new coil, at cost, saving us well over \$100. Total cost of the repairs was around \$165. Nick charged nothing for labor for a job that took a number of hours except for the cost of a Tim Horton's lunch combo. A pretty good deal for the club. To show our gratitude the club gave Nick a gift card to a local restaurant. We would like to thank Nick for his generous donation of time and effort and Gordie for bringing him up to do the repairs. It's people in our community that donate their time and expertise that helps to keep our club going. Thanks again Nick.